


## Important Changes to Benefit Programs

Federal and state benefit programs that provided temporary eligibility and enrollment procedures due to the COVID-19 pandemic will begin returning to regular operations over the coming months. These programs will have specific requirements and unique timeframes for returning to pre-pandemic services.

Please use the information below to find details concerning these important updates.

 VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES	<b>SNAP Emergency Allotments</b>	<b>SNAP for College Students</b>	<b>Medical Assistance</b>	<b>TANF</b>	<b>P-EBT</b>
<b>WHAT</b> <i>does this program do?</i>	The <b>Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)</b> provides monthly food benefits to eligible households and individuals. SNAP emergency allotments were a temporary federal benefit provided to active SNAP households.	The <b>Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) for college students</b> provides monthly benefits to eligible college students. Eligibility was temporarily expanded to allow greater participation by students enrolled at least half-time in an institution of higher education.	The <b>Medicaid and Family Access to Medical Insurance Security Plan (FAMIS)</b> programs provide medical and dental health care coverage to eligible children, adults and families. Participants were provided continuous coverage during the previous period and were not required to submit for annual renewal of benefits.	The <b>Temporary Cash Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)</b> program provides monthly cash payments to eligible households. TANF families were temporarily provided benefits beyond the usual 24- and 60-month limits. Requirements for the Virginia Initiative for Education and Work (VIEW) program were also waived.	The <b>Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer (P-EBT)</b> program provides free meals to school eligible aged children at participating schools. This program supplemented school meals that students missed while schools were closed or placed on part-time schedules due to COVID-19 restrictions.
<b>WHY</b> <i>is this changing?</i>	Passing of the <b>Consolidated Appropriations Act 2023</b>	The ending of the federal <b>Public Health Emergency</b>	Passing of the <b>Consolidated Appropriations Act 2023</b>	The end of the temporary program allowances was based on planned administrative decisions.	The ending of the federal <b>Public Health Emergency</b>
<b>WHEN</b> <i>will changes occur?</i>	February 16, 2023	June 10, 2023	April 1, 2023	January 1, 2023	May 11, 2023
<b>WHERE</b> <i>can I learn more?</i>	<a href="https://dss.virginia.gov/SNAP">dss.virginia.gov/SNAP</a>	<a href="https://dss.virginia.gov/SNAPcollege">dss.virginia.gov/SNAPcollege</a>	<a href="https://coverva.org/en/phe-planning">coverva.org/en/phe-planning</a>	<a href="https://dss.virginia.gov/TANF">dss.virginia.gov/TANF</a>	<a href="https://pebtva.com">pebtva.com</a>
VDSS Assistance	<a href="https://dss.virginia.gov/benefitchanges">dss.virginia.gov/benefitchanges</a>				



For program eligibility or to apply for assistance online, visit **CommonHelp**.  
 For phone assistance, contact the Enterprise Call Center at (855) 635-4370.  
 For deaf or hard-of-hearing (TTY/TTD) assistance, contact (800) 552-7917 or (866) 246-9300.